

## F. New Planning Tools

Selma's potential for continued economic development is enhanced by several new planning tools and developments such as:

1. Community Development (CD) Block Grants. Selma has a Community Development Department with a full time director. A well coordinated CD program is underway where problems such as drainage, recreation, and housing, as examples, are being addressed.
2. "201" Study. A comprehensive study of the "201" area has been completed and agreement reached among the participants that the present Smithfield wastewater treatment plant will become an expanded county-maintained facility that will handle the area's wastewater. This heavily federally funded project with its greatly enlarged capacity will add to Selma's attractiveness as a possible industrial site.
3. Triangle J Council of Governments Studies. Selma's and Johnston County's participation in this regional council can do much to ensure that the envisioned growth of the future is coordinated with regional plans, and that the impact of this growth can be accommodated.

## G. Citizen Awareness

The renewed interest in citizen participation is perhaps best expressed in the requirements of the Community Development legislation. Through public meetings, the citizens are encouraged to express their desires about ways in which the CD money will be spent. Through invitations to civic clubs and the like, the public has had an opportunity to learn about the impending future land development plans. It is hoped that these experiences will be the beginning of increased citizen awareness in the governmental and planning processes.

This chapter was not intended to be an exhaustive analysis of the potential of the Selma area. Opportunities for development are ample and with the expanding participation by the county in water and sewer operations, much of the infrastructure for growth is already underway.

Having briefly examined Selma's development potential, the next step will be the updated Land Development Plan, the foundations of which were discussed in this section.